

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7373

Joint Petition of Vermont Electric Power)
Company, Inc., Vermont Transco, LLC, and)
Central Vermont Public Service Corporation for a)
certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A.)
Section 248, authorizing the construction of the)
Southern Loop Transmission Upgrade Project)

Order entered: 12/26/2007

PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM
AND SCHEDULE

On November 8, 2007, Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. and Vermont Transco, LLC (collectively, "VELCO") and Central Vermont Public Service Corporation ("CVPS") filed a petition with the Public Service Board ("Board") seeking a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, for the construction of a new 51-mile 345 kV transmission line from Vermont to Cavendish, new substations in Vernon and Newfane, a new one-mile 345 kV transmission line loop between the new Newfane substation and the new Vernon-Cavendish 345 kV line, and additional equipment at the Coolidge substation.

The Board convened a prehearing conference on December 19, 2007. The following parties entered appearances: Kimberly Hayden, Esq., of Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer, P.C., for VELCO; James Porter, Esq. and Laura Beliveau, Esq., for the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department"); David Englander, Esq., for the Agency of Natural Resources ("ANR"); Morris Silver, Esq., for CVPS. In addition to these parties, a number of other organizations and individuals attended the prehearing conference; several of these additional entities indicated that they might seek to intervene in this proceeding.¹

1. Carl Ferenbach, III and Judy W. Ferenbach, who were represented at the prehearing conference by George T. McNaughton, Esq., have already filed a motion to intervene.

At the prehearing we discussed the schedule for this proceeding, which resulted in the parties in attendance agreeing on a schedule. We largely adopt that schedule, except that the dates for technical hearings have been set to accommodate the Board members' schedules, with briefing deadlines adjusted accordingly, and the public hearing has been set for a date (January 17, 2008) that allows sufficient time to satisfy statutory notice requirements. Therefore, the schedule for this proceeding shall be as follows:

Response to Ferenbachs' Motion to Intervene	January 4, 2008
Public Hearing	January 17, 2008 ²
Deadline for Motions to Intervene	January 25, 2008
Responses to Motions to Intervene	7 calendar days after motion is filed
1 st Round Discovery on Petitioners	March 10, 2008
Petitioners' Responses to 1 st Round Discovery	March 24, 2008
2 nd Round Discovery on Petitioners	April 14, 2008
Petitioners' Responses to 2 nd Round Discovery	April 28, 2008
(Depositions to be noticed at least 10 days in advance and held at an agreed-upon time and location any time after commencement of the discovery period, up to 10 days prior to the technical hearings)	
Non-Petitioners' Direct Testimony ³	May 12, 2008
1 st Round Discovery on Non-Petitioners	May 19, 2008
Non-Petitioners' Responses to 1 st Round Discovery	June 2, 2008
2 nd Round Discovery on Non-Petitioners	June 16, 2008
Non-Petitioners' Responses to 2 nd Round Discovery	June 30, 2008
Petitioners' Rebuttal Testimony	July 7, 2008
1 st Round Discovery on Petitioners' Rebuttal	July 14, 2008
Petitioners' Responses to 1 st Round Discovery	July 28, 2008
2 nd Round Discovery on Petitioners' Rebuttal	August 4, 2008

2. The public hearing will be held in the Newfane courthouse at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 17, 2008. A separate notice will be issued at a later date.

3. This filing shall also include the identification of any matters for which the party requires additional time to conduct studies because of seasonal limitations (e.g., seasonally dependent identification of flora or fauna); the direct testimony on such matters may be filed in accordance with the schedule for rebuttal testimony.

Petitioners' Responses to 2 nd Round Discovery	August 18, 2008
Non-Petitioners' Rebuttal Testimony	September 2, 2008
1 st Round Discovery on Non-Petitioners' Rebuttal	September 9, 2008
Petitioners' Responses to 1 st Round Discovery	September 22, 2008
2 nd Round Discovery on Non-Petitioners' Rebuttal	September 26, 2008
Petitioners' Responses to 2 nd Round Discovery	October 13, 2008
Technical Hearings	October 15–22, 28–31, November 3, 5–10, 2008
Briefs	December 3, 2008
Reply Briefs	December 21, 2008

In addition, the parties indicated that they would discuss possible site-visit itineraries. They should also discuss possible dates for site visits, keeping in mind that dates after the commencement of daylight savings will allow more time for the visit. Parties should file proposed itineraries and approximate dates for site visits by January 9, 2008.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 26th day of December, 2007.

<u>s/James Volz</u>)	PUBLIC SERVICE
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)	
<u>s/David C. Coen</u>)	BOARD
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)	
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>)	OF VERMONT
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OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: December 26, 2007

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)